

INDOT is implementing a new program entitled TRAFFICWISE, which focuses on specifically addressing non-recurrent congestion (crashes), recurrent congestion (rush-hour) and congestion related to work zones. INDOT expects TRAFFICWISE to save motorists 10 to 25 percent in travel time, and officials hope for a similar drop in accidents.



ATMS Projects

The most significant TRAFFICWISE deployments currently underway in Indiana are the three Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) projects. These projects are located in the Northwest Indiana (Borman Expressway), Indianapolis and Jeffersonville areas. The three major components of ATMS are **a real-time traffic and weather monitoring system, an incident response program, and a traveler information system.**

Traffic and Weather Monitoring:

The TRAFFICWISE system will be capable of monitoring real-time traffic and weather conditions on the interstate within the ATMS deployment areas. These sensors will enable INDOT personnel to identify locations in which traffic is congested or an unsafe situation exists. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras will then be utilized to collect further information that can be sent to emergency responders en route to the problem area.

Traveler Information:

In the TRAFFICWISE system, the public is notified through the utilization of Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) Stations, alphanumeric pagers and the Internet. The traveler can then use this information to make real-time decisions about the travel route. Highway Advisory Radio can be found at 530AM on the radio dial.



Incident Response:

The primary INDOT incident responders under the TRAFFICWISE system are the Hoosier Helpers. The special freeway service patrol (FSP) units utilize specially identified and equipped vans to respond to disabled motorists, traffic crashes, debris and any other problem that has the potential to reduce traffic flow as detected via the traffic and weather sensors. In 1999, the Hoosier Helpers working in the Indianapolis area responded to more than 7,500 incidents. Every dollar spent on the Hoosier Helper program saves motorists more than 10 times that much in time and fuel that is not wasted sitting in traffic. INDOT, through partnerships formed with other emergency services agencies such as the Indiana State Police, is also working on the development of a comprehensive Highway Incident Management program to increase the efficiency of response efforts.



The map below shows the Hoosier Helper coverage areas for Indianapolis.

